

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 09843 281916Z

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 AF-10 ARA-10  
EA-10 EUR-12 HA-05 TRSE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00  
ICAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 /124 W  
-----072516 281928Z /53

O 281856Z JUN 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1453

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 09843

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNDP, PLO, XF

SUBJECT: 25TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL: ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

REF: STATE 160900

1. US DEL IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH UNDP ADMINISTRATOR AND ROTHERMEL (EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE ADMINISTRATOR) MADE POINTS CONTAINED PARA 4 REFTEL, STRESSING THE SENSITIVITY OF THE ISSUE RAISED BY THE DISCUSSION OF THE POSSIBLE ROLE OF THE PLO IN REQUEST OF ASSISTANCE THAT MIGHT BE MADE AVAILABLE BY UNDP TO THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND THE NEED FOR CLOSE INFORMAL CONTACT BETWEEN THE UNDP SECRETARIAT AND THE US ON UNDP THINKING CONCERNING THIS MATTER AND POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS RESPECT.

2. BOTH MORSE AND ROTHERMEL ASSURED US REPS THAT THEY WERE FULLY ALERT TO THE POTENTIAL PITFALLS WHICH WERE POSED BY THE ISSUE. MORSE JOKINGLY OBSERVED AT ONE POINT THAT HE ALSO COULD CLAIM TO HAVE BEEN SENSITIZED BY A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF POLITICAL EXPERIENCE IN THE UNITED STATES.

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 09843 281916Z

THEY ALSO ASSURED US THAT THEY WISHED TO MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACTS WITH RESPECT TO POSSIBLE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS. WE NOTED THAT USUN WAS ALWAYS AT THE SECRETARIAT'S DISPOSAL FOR THIS PURPOSE.

3. AS REGARDS THE SUBSTANCE OF THE MATTER, ROTHERMEL STATED THAT UNDP'S CONTACTS WITH THE PLO AND THE

PALESTINE NATIONAL FUND WERE "MINIMAL" AND NOT INTENDED TO GO BEYOND DISCUSSION OF IDEAS FOR POSSIBLE PROJECTS. THERE WAS NO INTENTION TO ACCORD THE PLO ANY SPECIAL STATUS ON THIS REQUEST. IN FACT, THE UNDP WAS EXAMINING SUCH IDEAS WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER CONTACTS, E.G., THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY DF ECWA AND THE SECRETARIAT OF UNRWA. FURTHERMORE, UNDP HAD NO INTENTION OF USING THE PLO AS A CONDUIT FOR ASSISTANCE OR AS EXECUTOR OF PROJECTS. ROTHERMEL ALSO SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE UNDP FELT THAT SOME MINIMAL GESTURES HAD TO BE MADE TO SATISFY PRESSURES FROM THE ARAB STATES WHICH WERE ACCUSING THE SECRETARIAT OF INACTION IN THE FACE OF SUCH RESOLUTIONS AS ECOSOC 2100. ROTHERMEL NOTED THAT A PARTICULAR CONCERN OF UNDP WAS THAT ARAB DISSATISFACTION COULD LEAD TO A MOVE AT THE GA TO HAVE THE UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL ESTABLISH AN IPF FOR THE PLO. THIS, IN THEIR VIEW, COULD PRESENT THE UNDP WITH A MOST SEVERE PROBLEM. UP TILL NOW, ACCORDING TO ROTHERMEL, THE UNDP HAD DONE MORE THAN "ENGAGE IN A DANCE" WITH THE PLO. IN RESPONSE TO A SPECIFIC QUESTION AS TO WHAT THE ADMINISTRATOR HAD IN MIND WHEN HE SAID THAT THE UNDP WOULD HAVE FURTHER CONVERSATIONS WITH THE PNF REGARDING THE PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED TO GIVE EFFECT TO RESOLUTION 2100, ROTHERMEL SAID IT "WOULD NOT AMOUNT TO MUCH" AND THAT A GOOD PART OF THE ADMINISTRATOR'S STATEMENT TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL WAS INTENDED TO BE POLITICAL BALM TO HEAD OFF THE

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 09843 281916Z

THREATENED DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THIS MATTER.

3. WE REITERATED OUR CONCERNS AND DESIRE TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH. VANDEN HEUVEL

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## Message Attributes

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**Decapton Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Review Markings:**  
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